

NOTES

THE RANGE AND TWO NEW LOCATIONS OF *Boschniakia strobilacea* (OROBANCHA-CEAE).—The known range of the root parasite *Boschniakia strobilacea* Gray (Ground Cone) is from Vancouver Island, B.C., Canada [1885, *Macoun s.n.* (GH)] south to the San Jacinto Mountains, Riverside Co., California [*Reed 2535* (JEPS)]. A gap in this range has existed between San Benito Peak, San Benito Co. [*Jepson 2718* (JEPS)] and Mt. Williamson, San Gabriel Mountains, Los Angeles Co. [9 Nov 1968, *Thorne et al. s.n.* (RSA)], a distance of 330 km.

Two recent collections have narrowed this gap: one in the Scodie Mountains, Kern Co. [3 Jul 1984, *Shevock 10948* (RSA, CAS)] and another on Dry Lakes Ridge, Ventura Co. [*Magney 195-83, 124-84, 31-86, 32-86* (UCSB)]. The latter collections were reported recently by Magney (A flora of Dry Lakes Ridge, Ventura Co., UCSB Herb. Publ. No. 5, 1986). The Scodie Mountains locality is approximately 100 km north of the Mt. Williamson site and 245 km southeast of the San Benito Peak population. The Dry Lakes Ridge site is 130 km west of Mt. Williamson, 235 km south of San Benito Peak, and 170 km southwest of the Scodie Mountains (Fig. 1, page 380).

Boschniakia strobilacea is a fleshy-stemmed, parasitic herb 15–25 cm tall that arises from a corm-like thickening at the junction with the root of the host plant (Gilkey, Oregon St. Monogr., Studies in Botany No. 9, 1945). The leaves are scalelike, mostly imbricated, and brownish. The flowers are dark reddish-brown and occur on a thick spike 3.5–6 cm thick. Flowering occurs from April through July. *Boschniakia strobilacea* grows in a wide range of plant communities from near sea level to 2277 m in the northern portion of its range, and from 1450 m at Dry Lakes Ridge (Magney, op. cit.) to over 3015 m in southern California (Munz, A California fl., 1959; Abrams and Ferris, Illustr. fl. Pacific States, 1960). Gray (Pacific Railroad Report iv, 118 (1857), 1876) described it from a specimen collected in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. Label data from the type specimen reads, “dry and rocky hills, South Yuba, California” [23 May 1854, *Bigelow s.n.* (NY)].

Specimen label data obtained from many herbaria (A, CAS, CSUC, DAV, F, GH, HSC, JEPS, K, LA, NY, RSA, SD, SFSU, UC, UCR, UCSB, US) indicate that *B. strobilacea* has been collected most frequently in northern California. Approximately 300 collections are from about 150 locations throughout its range (Fig. 1). A list of collection sites obtained from the herbaria mentioned above is available from the author upon request.

Arbutus menziesii and *Arctostaphylos glauca*, *A. nevadensis*, *A. parryana*, *A. patula*, *A. pungens*, and *A. tomentosa* have been suggested as host plants for *B. strobilacea*. The Dry Lakes Ridge population adds another host, *Arctostaphylos glandulosa*.

I appreciate the comments of reviewers L. Heckard, C. Mason, B. Tanowitz, an anonymous reviewer, and the editor.—DAVID L. MAGNEY, Dames & Moore, 175 Cremona Dr., Suite A–E, Goleta, CA 93117. (Received 17 Dec 1986; revision accepted 15 Jul 1987.)

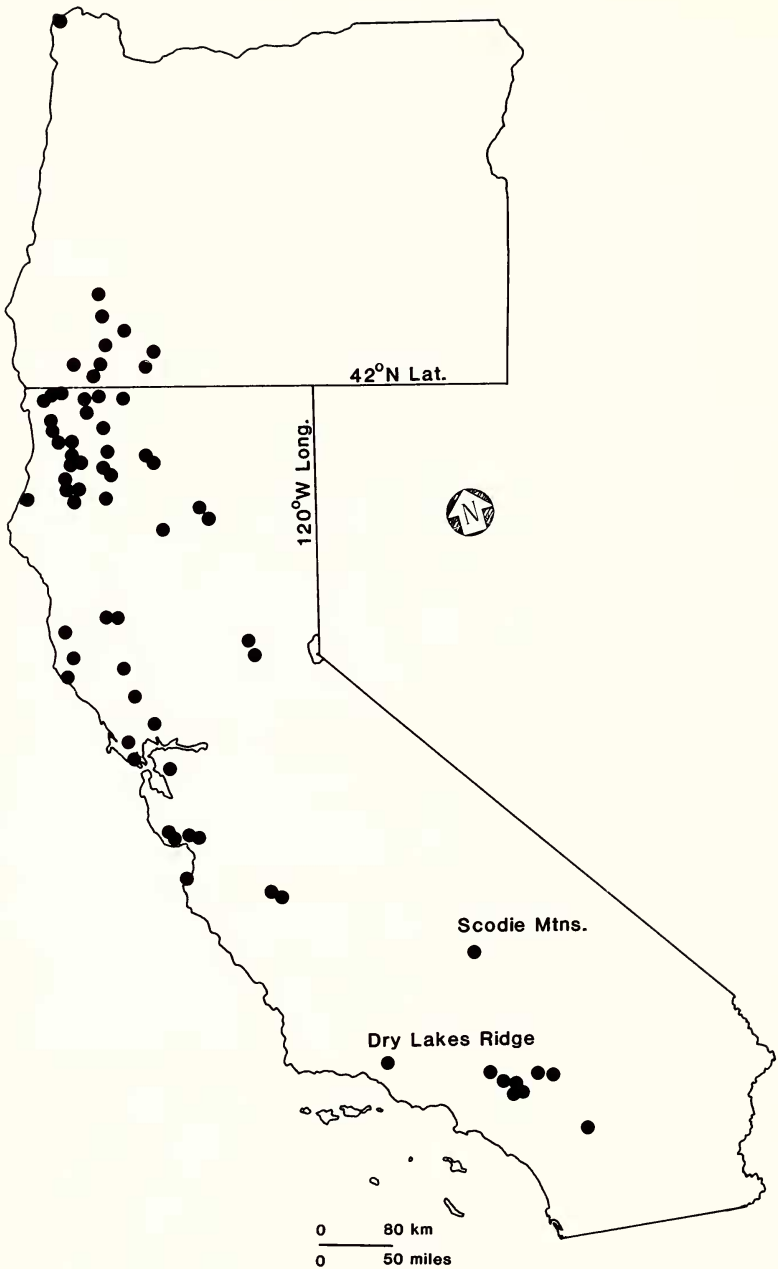


FIG. 1. Distribution of *Boschniakia strobilacea* Gray in California and Oregon. It also has been collected from Vancouver Island, B.C., Canada (not shown). ● = one or more collections of *B. strobilacea* and roughly represents one population.